IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, line 2, please insert the following headings:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 1, before line 9, please insert the following heading:

--2. DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

On page 1, before line 27, please insert the following heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 3, before line 29, insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

On page 4, before line 15, insert the following heading and paragraph following thereafter:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Further scope of applicability of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description given hereinafter. However, it should be understood that the detailed

description and specific examples, while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this detailed description.--.

On page 7, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 33, as follows:

--The threshold value delivered by the threshold generator 4 is then progressively decremented. Assuming that during the image cycle concerned the pixel p_n receives the greatest quantity of light compared to those received by its neighbors, its comparator 3 will trip first, as soon as the values of the signals that are applied to it are equal. The output of the comparator 3 changes state and commands the inhibition unit 5 to block the delivery of an output pulse by the adjacent pixels p_n-1 and p_n+1. The AND gate 7 is open (no inhibition signal is received at the input 9 or 10 of the pixel p_n) and the pulse generator <u>11</u> ~~12~~ delivers an output pulse at the terminal 12. The time during the image capture cycle at which this pulse appears at the output 12 is a function of the luminance value captured by the pixel p_n, in this instance a local maximum value. At the same time, by virtue of the

inhibition unit 13, the pixel p_n is prevented from delivering any new output pulse during the image cycle concerned.--

On page 12, after the last line, please insert the following paragraph:

--The invention being thus described, it will be apparent that the same may be varied in many ways. Such variations are not to be regarded as a departure from the spirit and scope of the invention, and all such modifications as would be recognized by one skilled in the art are intended to be included within the scope of the following claims.--.